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WIPO 1997

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MULTILATERAL TREATIES

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Governing Bodies of WIPO

WIPO Budget Committee

Sixteenth Session

WIPO Premises Committee

Seventh Session

(Geneva, April 14 and 15, 1997)

The WIPO Budget Committee held its sixteenth session and the WIPO Premises Committee its seventh session jointly in Geneva on April 14 and 15, 1997. The following 22 States, members of the WIPO Budget Committee, the WIPO Premises Committee or both Committees, were represented at the joint session: Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Japan, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay. In addition, the following 27 States members of WIPO but not members of the WIPO Budget Committee or the WIPO Premises Committee were represented by observers: Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ghana, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Morocco, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic

of Korea, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Viet Nam.

The Committees reviewed the report of an independent consultant (STG-Coopers & Lybrand Consulting SA) on the evaluation of the possibilities of the Geneva property market for meeting future premises requirements (1997-2006) of WIPO, and a memorandum by the Director General on the international architectural competition for constructing a building on the "Steiner lot." Following a thorough discussion of the two documents and lengthy informal consultations, the Committees were unable to reach a consensus on whether or not to continue the international architectural competition for constructing a building on the "Steiner lot" and therefore referred the matter back to the WIPO General Assembly for a decision, at its meeting in September-October 1997, as to the future procedure.

WIPO Budget Committee

Seventeenth Session

(Geneva, April 16 and 18, 1997)

The WIPO Budget Committee held its seventeenth session in Geneva on April 16 and 18, 1997. The following 18 States, members of that Committee, were represented at the session: Algeria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, India, Japan, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Switzerland (*ex officio*), United Kingdom, United States of America,

Uruguay. In addition, the following 30 States members of WIPO but not members of the WIPO Budget Committee were represented by observers: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, Panama, Paraguay, Senegal,

South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Ukraine, Viet Nam.

The Committee first considered the accounts for the 1994-95 biennium and agreed with the contents of the document that had been submitted to it.

The Committee then considered a proposal to freeze the pre-1994 arrears of contributions of developing countries, but was not in a position to adopt the proposal. It was understood that this issue would be revisited, with perhaps more information coming from the International Bureau and an opportunity to discuss what other solutions might be suitable.

Following a full discussion of the draft program and budget for the 1998-99 biennium, the Committee approved the following text:

"The Budget Committee,

Expressing its recognition of and appreciation for the efficient management of the Organization,

Emphasizing the need for continuity and further improvement in the work program of the Organization, and

Considering that it is desirable that consideration of the program and budget for the 1998-99 biennium be based on proposals pre-

sented by the new Director General, who will be in office during that biennium,

Recommends:

- to the Governing Bodies that the program and budget for the 1998-99 biennium be adopted as soon as possible after the new Director General takes office, on the basis of a draft to be presented by him;
- to the Governing Bodies that they decide at their September–October 1997 sessions that the contributions for the 1998-99 biennium be maintained at the same level as for the 1996-97 biennium; and
- to the Assembly of the PCT Union that at its September-October 1997 session it examine the fee reduction as proposed in document WO/BC/XVII/2 and take a decision in that respect,

And *notes* that, in accordance with the provisions of the WIPO Convention and the other applicable treaties administered by WIPO, if the budget were not adopted before January 1, 1998, it would continue at the previous level until the adoption of the budget for the 1998-99 biennium."

Notifications Concerning Treaties Administered by WIPO

Berne Convention

Withdrawal of Notification Concerning Mongolia

The notification of March 12, 1997 (Berne Notification No. 178),¹ announcing the accession of Mongolia to the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, was erroneous and is hereby withdrawn.

Consequently, and until further notice, Mongolia is not to be regarded as a party to the Berne Convention.

Berne Notification No. 183, of June 5, 1997.

¹ See *Industrial Property and Copyright*, 1997, p. 168.

Rome Convention

I. Accession

CAPE VERDE

The Government of Cape Verde deposited, on April 3, 1997, its instrument of accession to the International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations, done at Rome on October 26, 1961.

In accordance with its Article 25.2, the Convention will enter into force for Cape Verde three months after the date of deposit of the instrument, i.e. on July 3, 1997.

II. Ratification

LEBANON

The Government of Lebanon deposited, on May 12, 1997, its instrument of ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations, done at Rome on October 26, 1961.

In accordance with its Article 25.2, the Convention will enter into force for Lebanon three months after the date of deposit of the instrument, i.e. on August 12, 1997.

Phonograms Convention

Accession

LATVIA

The Government of Latvia deposited, on April 29, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Phonograms of October 29, 1971.

The said Convention will enter into force, with respect to Latvia, on August 23, 1997.

Phonograms Notification No. 63, of May 23, 1997.

Budapest Treaty

Termination of the Status of International Depositary Authority Under Article 8(2)

NATIONAL COLLECTION OF FOOD BACTERIA (NCFB)

(United Kingdom)

The Director General of WIPO was informed, by a written communication received on March 7, 1997, and dated March 5, 1997, from the Government of the United Kingdom, of the termination of the status of international depositary authority with respect to the National Collection of Food Bacteria (NCFB), an international depositary authority¹ under the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure, done at Budapest on April 28, 1977, as amended on September 26, 1980, pursuant to Article 8(2) of that Treaty. The text of that communication follows:

“I have the honour to refer to the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure, opened for signature at Budapest from 28 April to 31 December 1977, and to the communication dated 20 July 1982 from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland nominating the National Collection of Food Bacteria (NCFB) (formerly the National Collection of Dairy Organisms (NCDO)), AFRC Institute of Food Research, Earley Gate, Whiteknights Road, Reading RG6 3EF, as an International Depositary Authority.

In accordance with Rule 4.1 of the Regulations under the Treaty, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland hereby notify you that the National Collection of Food Bacteria has ceased to exist as an International Depositary Authority as from 10 December 1996.”

[End of text of the communication of the Permanent Representative in Geneva of the Government of the United Kingdom]

¹ See Budapest Notification No. 86, of February 5, 1990, *Industrial Property*, 1990, p. 55.

Pursuant to Article 8(2)(b) of the Budapest Treaty and Rule 4.2(c) of the Regulations under that Treaty, the status of the National Collection of Food Bacteria (NCFB) as an international depositary authority under the Budapest Treaty will terminate three months from the date of the said communication, that is, on June 5, 1997.

Budapest Communication No. 109 (this communication is the subject of Budapest Notification No. 156, of June 16, 1997).

Trademark Law Treaty

Accession

BURKINA FASO

The Government of Burkina Faso deposited, on May 9, 1997, its instrument of accession to the Trademark Law Treaty, done at Geneva on October 27, 1994.

Burkina Faso being a Member State of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), the Treaty will enter into force, with respect to Burkina Faso, three months after the date on which OAPI deposits its instrument of accession to the said Treaty.

TLT Notification No. 15, of May 9, 1997.

Normative Activities of WIPO

UNESCO-WIPO World Forum on the Protection of Folklore

(Phuket, April 8 to 10, 1997)

From April 8 to 10, 1997, WIPO organized that Forum in Phuket, Thailand, along with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and in cooperation with the Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Commerce, Government of Thailand.

The Forum was attended by some 180 participants from about 50 countries.

Presentations were made by invited speakers from Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Ghana, India, Japan, Spain, Sweden, Thailand and the United States of America, as well as by two UNESCO officials and one WIPO official. The following topics were covered: preservation and conservation of folklore in the various regions of the world; legal means of protection of

expressions of folklore in national legislation; economic exploitation of expressions of folklore; international protection of expressions of folklore. At the end of the Forum, the following "plan of action" was adopted by the participants:

"The participants from both the public and private sectors of the member countries of WIPO and UNESCO made an extensive exchange of views and experiences at the UNESCO-WIPO World Forum on the Protection of Folklore during 8 to 10 April, 1997, in Phuket, Thailand. They noted the welcoming and keynote address by H.E. Somporn Asavahame who invited the participants to meet a challenge of creating a new interna-

tional standard for the legal protection of folklore. They also took into account the Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore adopted by the UNESCO General Conference at its twenty-fifth session in Paris on 15 November, 1989.

The participants were of the view that at present there is no international standard of protection for folklore and that the copyright regime is not adequate to ensure such protection. They also confirmed a need to define, identify, conserve, preserve, disseminate, and protect folklore which has been a living cultural heritage of great economic, social, and political significance from time immemorial. They emphasized the importance of striking a good balance of interests between the community owning the folklore and the users of expressions of folklore. They were convinced that closer regional and international cooperation would be vital to the successful establishment of a new international standard for the protection of folklore.

The participants also urged both WIPO and the UNESCO to pursue their efforts to ensure

an effective and appropriate international regime for the protection of folklore.

In the light of the above, most participants wish to suggest the following actions.

— A Committee of Experts should be set up in cooperation with UNESCO as soon as possible consisting of experts in both the conservation and protection of folklore and representing a fair balance of global geographical distribution.

— Regional consultative fora should take place.

— The Committee of Experts should complete the drafting of a new international agreement on the *sui generis* protection of folklore by the second quarter of 1998, in view of the possible convocation of a Diplomatic Conference, preferably in the second half of 1998.

The participants from the Governments of the United States of America and the United Kingdom expressly stated that they could not associate themselves with the plan of action.”

WIPO World Symposium on Broadcasting, New Communication Technologies and Intellectual Property

(Manila, April 28 to 30, 1997)

The World Symposium which took place in Manila, from April 28 to 30, 1997, had been organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Government of the Philippines and with the assistance of the National Association of Broadcasters of the Philippines. The Symposium was attended by some 300 participants from about 50 countries.

His Excellency Fidel V. Ramos, President of the Philippines, participated in the opening session and made a keynote speech.

Five panel discussions were held on the following issues: broadcasters as owners of neighboring rights; the legal status of broadcast programs at the borderline of copyright and neighbor-

ing rights; broadcasters as “users”; convergence of communication technologies: terrestrial broadcasting, satellite broadcasting and communication to the public by cable; digital transmissions in the Internet and similar networks. This was followed by a concluding debate in a sixth panel. The discussions were moderated by experts from Japan, the Philippines, the United States of America and the Commission of the European Communities (CEC), and by a WIPO official. Among the panelists, there were experts from Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, the United States of America and the CEC, as well as from various regional unions of broadcasting organizations and

non-governmental organizations representing authors, performers, producers of phonograms, producers of audiovisual works, software producers, cable distributors and Internet service providers.

There was an agreement among the participants that WIPO should deal with the issues of the protection of the rights of broadcasting organizations with the objective of international harmonization, and that, for that purpose, the convocation of a meeting of experts would be justified.

At the same time, there was no agreement concerning the way international harmonization should be achieved. The representatives of

some governments supported the proposal made on behalf of broadcasting organizations that a new treaty should be worked out and adopted on the rights of broadcasters. Some other government representatives did not oppose an attempt to work out an international treaty but they expressed hesitation about the timely nature and feasibility of such a project, while still other government representatives were of the view that the preparation of a new treaty would be premature; harmonization might be achieved through some other means, such as through offering guidance to governments and legislators.

Inventions Made or Used in Outer Space

On March 6 and 7, 1997, WIPO convened in Geneva a meeting of consultants from the National Space Development Agency (NASDA) of Japan, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of the

United States of America, and the European Space Agency (ESA), to discuss the possibility and desirability of adopting special rules or recommending principles which could be used by all interested States for the protection of inventions made or used in outer space.

International Classification and Standardization Activities

International Patent Classification (IPC) Union

Committee of Experts

Twenty-Fifth Session
(Geneva, March 10 to 14, 1997)

The following 16 members of the Committee were represented at the session: Canada, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America. The European Patent Office (EPO) was also represented.

The Committee adopted amendments to the sixth edition of the IPC, submitted by the Working Group on Search Information of the WIPO Permanent Committee on Industrial Property Information (PCIPI/SI), affecting 75 subclasses. The Committee also adopted a list of references to be intro-

duced in class G 05 and amendments to the IPC resulting therefrom.

The Committee considered the introduction of catchwords to indexing places in the official catchword indexes to the IPC and agreed on detailed instructions to the PCIPI/SI relating to the selection of such catchwords. The Committee also approved a text concerning the presentation of chemical structural formulae in the IPC and requested the International Bureau to publish that text in the *WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation*.

Registration Systems Administered by WIPO

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

Training and Promotion Meetings for PCT Users

Colombia. On March 10, 1997, a WIPO National Seminar on the PCT was organized by WIPO in Santa Fe de Bogotá in cooperation with the Government of Colombia, in the light of the country's envisaged accession to the PCT. The Seminar was attended by around 70 participants, most of them local patent attorneys. Presentations

were made by a speaker from Mexico and two WIPO officials.

Germany. In March 1997, a WIPO official had discussions on the PCT with officials of the German Patent Office in Munich.

Also in March 1997, two WIPO officials gave a basic seminar on the PCT to about 40 patent attorneys from private practice and industry. The seminar was organized in Stuttgart by the Deutsche

Gesellschaft für gewerblichen Rechtsschutz und Urheberrecht (GRUR).

Still in March 1997, a government discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva the present and future development of the PCT system.

United States of America. In March 1997, a WIPO official and a WIPO consultant from the United States of America gave presentations on the PCT at two basic seminars on the PCT for patent administrators, organized by Intellectual Property International (IPI) in San Francisco and the John Marshall Law School (JMLS) in Chicago,

respectively. Each seminar was attended by some 40 participants, both from industry and law firms.

Also in March 1997, a government official was briefed by WIPO officials in Geneva on the organization of the PCT Operations Department and was given a tour of that Department.

Centre for International Industrial Property Studies (CEIPI). In March 1997, a WIPO official spoke on the new developments of the PCT at the CEIPI annual meeting of tutors in charge of training future European patent attorneys, held in Strasbourg (France). The meeting was attended by about 70 tutors.

Madrid Union

Training and Promotion Meetings for Users of the Madrid System

United Kingdom. In March 1997, a WIPO official spoke on the international registration of marks and the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks (1989) at a Judges Intellectual Property Forum organized in Oxford.

Commission of the European Communities (CEC). In March 1997, two WIPO officials made presentations on the system of international registration of marks under the Madrid Agreement and the Madrid Protocol at two seminars on trademarks organized in the framework of the CEC's regional industrial property program for Central and Eastern Europe by the Benelux

Trademark Office (BBM), in Budapest. The seminars were attended by local trademark agents and staff of the Hungarian Patent Office, as well as by government officials of other countries in that region.

Institute of Trade Mark Agents (ITMA). In March 1997, a WIPO official made a presentation on WIPO's current and planned activities in the field of trademarks, with particular reference to the Madrid Protocol and the Trademark Law Treaty (TLT), at the annual International Conference of ITMA, held in London. Another WIPO official demonstrated some WIPO CD-ROM products at an exhibition of computer services and suppliers of trademark information which was organized in the framework of the same Conference.

WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center

Conference on the Arbitration of Intellectual Property Disputes (United States of America). On March 21, 1997, WIPO organized that Conference with the Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law, Columbia University, in New York, in collabora-

tion with the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA) and the Licensing Executives Society (LES) (United States of America and Canada). The Conference was attended by about 100 participants from 21 countries. It provided a detailed review

of the arbitration of intellectual property disputes under the WIPO Arbitration and Expedited Arbitration Rules. Fifteen reporters and panelists, who were legal scholars

and private practitioners, and two WIPO officials made presentations and conducted discussions on various aspects of the said Rules.

Activities of WIPO Specially Designed for Developing Countries

Africa

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO Regional Symposium for English-Speaking African Countries on the Economic Importance of Intellectual Property and on Enforcement of Rights under the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) (United Republic of Tanzania). From March 5 to 7, 1997, WIPO organized that Symposium in Arusha in cooperation with the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania. The Symposium was attended by 35 government officials, including judges, senior police officials, lawyers and officials from national authors and composers organizations. The participants came from Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Twelve local participants and one representative each from the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) also attended the Symposium. The discussions were led by a panel comprising 10 WIPO consultants from Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Sweden, the United Republic of Tanzania, ARIPO, the World Customs Organization (WCO), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI), and by five WIPO officials.

Regional Workshop on the Promotion of Industrial Property for the Heads of National Liaison Offices of the Member States of the African Intel-

lectual Property Organization (OAPI) (Gabon). From March 25 to 27, 1997, WIPO organized that Workshop in Libreville in cooperation with OAPI and the Government of Gabon. The Workshop was attended by 14 heads of national liaison offices from Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, Senegal and Togo, an official from Djibouti and four OAPI officials. Presentations were made by two of the participating OAPI officials, a WIPO consultant from France and three WIPO officials. The program of the Workshop included discussion on the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights (Equatorial Guinea). From March 10 to 12, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Malabo in cooperation with the Government of Equatorial Guinea. The Seminar was attended by some 100 participants who were writers, musicians, publishers and government officials. Papers were presented by a WIPO consultant from Switzerland and two WIPO officials.

WIPO National Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights for Judges (Senegal). From March 26 to 28, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Dakar in cooperation with the Government of Senegal. The Seminar was attended by some 120 participants from the legal and government sectors. Papers were presented by a WIPO consultant from Switzerland, a speaker from France, a local speaker and a WIPO official.

African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO). In March 1997, a WIPO official participated in an ARIPO conference organized, with the cooperation of the Patent Office of the United Kingdom in Newport, for government officials of ARIPO member States with a view to exchanging information and experience in the industrial property field.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Benin. In March 1997, a WIPO official held discussions with government and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) officials in Cotonou on cooperation in regional training and industrial property for the current year.

Gambia. In March 1997, Mrs. Isatou Combeh Njai, Registrar General, undertook a study visit to the International Bureau in Geneva. She met with the Director General and was briefed by WIPO officials on the various aspects of the Organization's work in the international protection of industrial property. She also visited the PCT Operations Department, the International Trademark Registry and the International Industrial Design Registry and was briefed on, *inter alia*, the four international classification systems set up by the Strasbourg Agreement (patents), the Nice Agreement (goods and services), the Vienna Agreement (figurative elements of marks), and the Locarno Agreement (industrial designs), and on the work of the Permanent Committee on Industrial Property Information (PCIPI).

Kenya. In March 1997, Professor Norah K. Olemba (Mrs.), Director, Industrial Property Office, met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation and the implementation of the WIPO-financed country project for Kenya.

Madagascar. In March 1997, a WIPO consultant from Mauritius undertook a mission to Antananarivo to give advice on and assistance in the modernization of the operations of the Copyright Office of Madagascar in the field of collective administration of copyright

Malawi. In March 1997, WIPO arranged for three government officials of the Copyright Society of Malawi (COSOMA) a study visit to the

Copyright Office of Ghana, in Accra, to study the ways and means of fighting piracy.

Also in March 1997, WIPO arranged for a government official of COSOMA a study visit to the Copyright Office of Burkina Faso in Ouagadougou, in the field of collective administration of copyright.

Nigeria. In March 1997, Dr. Walter Ofonagoro, Minister of Information and Culture, met with the Director General and other WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation.

Sao Tome and Principe. In March 1997, a government official met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation between Sao Tome and Principe and WIPO.

Senegal. In March 1997, Mr. Magued Diouf, Minister of Energy, Mining and Industry, and another government official met with the Director General and other WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation. It was agreed that a WIPO-financed country project to upgrade the Industrial Property and Technology Service would be implemented.

Sierra Leone. In March 1997, Ms. Salimatu Koroma, Administrator and Registrar General, undertook a study visit to the International Bureau in Geneva. She met with the Director General and was briefed by WIPO officials on the various aspects of the Organization's work in the international protection of industrial property. She visited the PCT Operations Department, the International Trademark Registry and the International Industrial Design Registry and was briefed on, *inter alia*, the four international classification systems set up by the Strasbourg Agreement (patents), the Nice Agreement (goods and services), the Vienna Agreement (figurative elements of marks), and the Locarno Agreement (industrial designs), and on the work of the PCIPI.

South Africa. In March 1997, Mr. Craig John Burton-Durham, Acting Registrar, Office of the Registrar of Patents, Trade Marks, Designs and Copyright, met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation.

Southern African Development Community (SADC). In March 1997, an official of SADC met with WIPO officials in Arusha (United Republic

of Tanzania) to discuss possible cooperation between the two organizations.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). In March 1997, two WIPO officials participated in a meeting organized in Geneva by

UNDP to discuss the draft project document for the UNDP-financed regional project for Africa "Capacity Building for Trade and Development in Africa," a component of which will be executed by WIPO. The three-year project is scheduled to begin later in 1997.

Arab Countries

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO National Seminar on Industrial Property Law Teaching (Morocco). On March 14 and 15, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Casablanca in cooperation with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Hassan II University. The Seminar was attended by around 150 participants from the government, private and academical sectors. The program of the Seminar included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Lebanon. In March 1997, two WIPO officials participated as speakers in a Conference on Intellectual Property Rights Evolution, organized in Beirut by the Government of Lebanon in cooperation with the French-Arabic Chamber of Commerce.

United Arab Emirates. In March 1997, two WIPO officials participated in a National Training Workshop on Trademarks organized in Dubai by the Gulf Institute for International Law.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Egypt. In March 1997, a government official discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva the possible restructuring of the national intellectual property administration and the possible accession of Egypt to the PCT and the Madrid Protocol.

Lebanon. In March 1997, two WIPO officials held discussions with government leaders and officials in Beirut on cooperation between Lebanon and WIPO, in particular under the WIPO-financed country project for Lebanon.

Morocco. In March 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government

authorities, at their request, a study on the compatibility of the copyright legislation of Morocco with the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Qatar. In March 1997, WIPO organized for two government officials of the Copyright Office of Qatar a study visit to the National Copyright Office of Algeria in Algiers on the implementation of copyright legislation.

Sudan. In March 1997, Mrs. Amal Hassan Eltinay, Commercial Registrar General, discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva cooperation in the field of intellectual property.

Tunisia. In March 1997, two government officials discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva cooperation in the field of intellectual property and proposed activities for 1997.

United Arab Emirates. In March 1997, a government official discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva cooperation in the field of intellectual property for the year 1997.

Palestinian National Authority (PNA). In March 1997, an official of the PNA discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva future cooperation in the field of intellectual property and proposed activities for 1997.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). In March 1997, two WIPO officials undertook a mission to New York to discuss with UNDP officials the 1997 work plan of the UNDP-funded regional project for Arab countries, to strengthen and mobilize their intellectual property systems for promotion of technological, industrial and cultural development. The project will be executed by WIPO.

Also in March 1997, two WIPO officials attended a UNDP Meeting with National Focal Points and the Executing/Implementing Agen-

cies, in Geneva. A presentation was made by a WIPO official on the above Arab regional project.

Asia and the Pacific

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO Asian Regional Symposium on the Promotion of Inventive and Innovative Activities and their Valuation and Commercialization (Viet Nam). From March 5 to 7, 1997, WIPO organized that Symposium in Ho Chi Minh City in cooperation with the National Office of Industrial Property and the Department of Science, Technology and Environment of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City and with the assistance of the Japanese Patent Office (JPO). The Symposium was attended by 20 participants from Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand, two JPO officials (of whom one made a presentation) and some 60 local participants from government circles, industry, the legal profession, universities and research institutions. Papers were presented by seven WIPO consultants from Australia, Canada, Denmark, Japan and Sweden, four participant-speakers from China, India, Malaysia and Singapore, two local participants, a JPO official and a WIPO official. Country reports were presented by officials from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.

WIPO Asian Regional Symposium on the Implications of the TRIPS Agreement (Malaysia). From March 11 to 13, 1997, WIPO organized that Symposium in Kuala Lumpur in cooperation with the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs. The Symposium was attended by 56 participants from Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Hong Kong and Macau, and 54 local participants from government circles, industry, the legal profession, universities and research institutions. The discussions were led by a panel of 13 members, comprising 10 WIPO

consultants from India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Hong Kong, the WCO and the WTO, a local participant and two WIPO officials. Three other WIPO officials also participated, one of whom acted as a moderator for all the working sessions of the Symposium.

WIPO National Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights (Nepal). From March 19 to 21, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Kathmandu in cooperation with the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture and the Department of Industries of the Government of Nepal. The Seminar was attended by about 150 participants who were writers, composers, artists, musicians, music publishers and government officials. Presentations were made by two WIPO consultants from Canada and the Asia and the Pacific Office of the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC), as well as by two local speakers and two WIPO officials. The presentations included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

WIPO National Seminar on Copyright and Neighboring Rights (Brunei Darussalam). From March 24 to 26, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Bandar Seri Begawan in cooperation with the Attorney General's Chambers of the Government of Brunei Darussalam. The Seminar was attended by some 100 participants who were writers, publishers, university professors, lawyers, computer experts and government officials. Papers were presented by three WIPO consultants from Canada, the Asia and the Pacific Office of CISAC and the Asian Office of IFPI, as well as by two WIPO officials. The presentations included the relevant provisions of the TRIPS Agreement.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

China. In March 1997, two government officials met with the Director General and other

WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss intellectual property issues with reference to the situation in Hong Kong after June 30, 1997. The government officials also visited the PCT Operations Department and the International Trademark Registry.

Also in March 1997, Mr. Gao Lulin, Commissioner, Chinese Patent Office (CPO), and four other CPO officials met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation.

India. In March 1997, a government official met with the Director General and other WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss possible assistance with the teaching of intellectual property in India.

Indonesia. In March 1997, two WIPO officials met with government officials in Kuala Lumpur to discuss matters of cooperation including, *inter alia*, the modernization of Indonesia's intellectual property system and the country's possible accession to certain WIPO-administered treaties.

Iran (Islamic Republic of). In March 1997, a government official met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation in the field of industrial property.

Also in March 1997, a UNDP official based in Iran met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss, *inter alia*, the implementation of a new UNDP-financed national project for the development of the administration, protection and effective use of intellectual property in the country, to be executed by WIPO.

Malaysia. In March 1997, five WIPO officials had meetings, in Kuala Lumpur, with government leaders and officials to discuss development cooperation activities, including the modernization of the national intellectual property system and matters concerning the PCT and the Madrid Protocol.

Also in March 1997, a WIPO official participated in the testing and validation of the database management system (DBMS) for figurative marks that was being installed in the Intellectual Property Division under a project funded under the Euro-

pean Community (EC)—Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Patents and Trademarks Program (ECAP).

Mongolia. In March 1997, Mr. Namjil Chinbat, Director General, Intellectual Property Office of Mongolia, and another government official met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation further to Mongolia's accession, in that month, to the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs. The officials also visited the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property in Berne and the Lausanne Office of the Swiss Society for Authors' Rights in Musical Works (SUISA).

Republic of Korea. In March 1997, two government officials met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss matters of cooperation and issues related to the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration.

Japan. In March 1997, two government officials had discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on activities undertaken in 1996-97 by WIPO, under the Funds-in-Trust (FIT) arrangement between WIPO and the Government of Japan in the field of copyright and neighboring rights, as well as on activities planned for 1997-98.

Hong Kong. In March 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, comments on the Registered Designs Bill.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). In March 1997, a UNDP consultant met with WIPO officials in Geneva to discuss possible future development cooperation activities under three pilot projects being discussed for Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam under the UNDP regional program for the Asian and Pacific region.

Latin America and the Caribbean

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO Regional Symposium for Latin American and Caribbean Countries on the Economic

Importance of Intellectual Property and on Enforcement of Rights under the TRIPS Agreement (Colombia). From March 12 to 14, 1997, WIPO organized that Symposium in Cartagena de Indias

in cooperation with the Government of Colombia and the Latin American Economic System (SELA). The Symposium was attended by 84 participants from Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela. Some 120 local participants from the public and private sectors also attended the Symposium. Presentations were made by 15 speakers from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Saint Lucia, Spain, the United States of America, the WCO and the WTO, and four WIPO officials.

WIPO Regional Seminar on the Legal Protection of Industrial Designs for MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market) Countries (Paraguay). On March 31, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Asunción in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce of Paraguay. The Seminar was attended by six participants from Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. Some 32 local participants from the public and private sectors also attended the Seminar. Presentations on different aspects of the protection of industrial designs were made by local speakers, representatives of each of the four industrial property offices of the MERCOSUR countries and two WIPO officials.

Assistance with Training, Legislation and Modernization of Administration

Brazil. In March 1997, Mr. Américo Puppín, President, National Institute of Industrial Property, discussed with the Director General and other WIPO officials in Geneva matters of cooperation in the field of industrial property.

Colombia. In March 1997, a WIPO official visited Santa Fe de Bogotá and discussed with government officials the provisions of the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT).

Costa Rica. In March 1997, the International Bureau prepared and sent to the government authorities, at their request, explanatory comments on certain provisions of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.

Dominican Republic. In March 1997, a WIPO official undertook a mission to San Domingo to provide assistance in the drafting of a new Industrial Property Law. The discussions covered, *inter alia*, the implications of the TRIPS Agreement.

Mexico. In March 1997, Mr. Jorge Amigo Castañeda, Director General, Mexican Institute of Industrial Property, discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva matters of cooperation in the field of industrial property.

Paraguay. In March 1997, a WIPO consultant from Chile undertook a mission to Asunción to advise on the possible establishment of a special intellectual property court. The mission was funded under the country project for the modernization and strengthening of the intellectual property system of Paraguay which is executed by WIPO. The project is financed under a loan to the country by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

Trinidad and Tobago. In March 1997, a WIPO consultant from Canada undertook a mission to Port of Spain to advise on the possible establishment of a copyright unit within the Intellectual Property Registry and on possible improvements in the system of copyright collective administration of the country.

Uruguay. In March 1997, a WIPO consultant from Venezuela undertook a mission to Montevideo to discuss the organization of the WIPO/General Authors' and Publishers' Society (SGAE) [Spain] Regional Training Course on Copyright and Neighboring Rights and the IIIrd International Ibero-American Congress on Copyright and Neighboring Rights to take place in Punta del Este and Montevideo, respectively, later in the year.

United States of America. In March 1997, a WIPO consultant on automation from Chile undertook a mission to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in Washington, D.C., to discuss assistance in the fields of computerization and patent information and in the setting up of electronic pages on the Internet for the industrial property offices in Latin America.

Development Cooperation (in General)

Training Courses, Seminars and Meetings

WIPO/EPO/German Patent Office Interregional Training Seminar on New Trends in Patent Search and Examination (Munich, Geneva). From March 10 to 21, 1997, WIPO organized that Seminar in Munich and Geneva, in cooperation with the EPO and the German Patent Office. It was attended by 19 participants from 16 countries, namely, Argentina, Brazil,

Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam and Venezuela, who visited WIPO after spending two days in Munich at the German Patent Office and one week at the EPO. Lectures were given by officials of the German Patent Office, and EPO and WIPO officials. Presentations in Geneva focused on WIPO's development cooperation programs, patent information services and the PCT.

WIPO Medals

In March 1997, a WIPO official presented two WIPO gold medals to the winners of an invention and innovation competition organized in Ho Chi Minh City under the auspices of the National Office of Industrial Property of Viet Nam. The medals were awarded for the best invention

(presented by a team of six inventors) and for the most outstanding young inventor.

In the same month, a WIPO medal was awarded to a Japanese schoolboy at the All Japan Exhibition of School Children's Inventions, organized by the Japan Institute of Invention and Innovation (JIII) in Tokyo.

Activities of WIPO Specially Designed for Countries in Transition to Market Economy

National Activities

Hungary. In March 1997, two WIPO officials had discussions with officials of the Hungarian Patent Office in Budapest on the new Trademark Law of Hungary, expected to be soon adopted by Parliament and to enter into force in the coming months.

Latvia. In March 1997, the Director General, accompanied by another WIPO official, undertook an official visit to Latvia, at the invitation of the Government. In Riga, he gave a speech at a

meeting on the legal protection of industrial property, organized by the Ministry of Justice on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the foundation of the national industrial property system of the country. During his visit, the Director General had discussions with government leaders and officials on matters of mutual interest, in particular, development of the administration of copyright law and accession to further WIPO-administered treaties, as well as on possible cooperation in organizing a Baltic seminar for judges, in late 1997. He also made a presentation to professors at the University of Riga on the importance of intellectual property.

Contacts of the International Bureau of WIPO with Other Countries and with International Organizations

National Contacts

Andorra. In March 1997, two government officials discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva the draft copyright law of Andorra.

United States of America. In March 1997, two WIPO officials attended a Patent and Trademark Depository Library (PTDL) Training Seminar organized in Washington, D.C., by the USPTO, where they demonstrated some WIPO CD-ROM products.

United Nations

Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (Organizational Committee) (ACC(OC)). In March 1997, a WIPO official attended in Geneva a meeting of the ACC(OC), which was preparing for the next session of the ACC to be held in April.

Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions (CCPOQ). In March 1997, a WIPO official attended the tenth session of CCPOQ held in Geneva.

United Nations Commission for Human Rights. In March 1997, two WIPO officials attended a Technical Meeting on the Protection of the Heritage of Indigenous Peoples organized by the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva.

United Nations Staff College Project. In March 1997, two WIPO officials participated in a Training Workshop on Design, Monitoring and Evaluation of Technical Cooperation Programmes and Projects organized in Turin (Italy).

United Nations System Legal Advisers Meeting. In March 1997, two WIPO officials attended a Legal Advisers Meeting convened by the Under-Secretary-General and Legal Counsel of the United Nations in Geneva.

International Telecommunication Union (ITU). In March 1997, an ITU official discussed with WIPO officials in Geneva recent WIPO activities,

relevant to the telecommunications sectors, including the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT).

Intergovernmental Organizations

European Patent Office (EPO). In March 1997, a WIPO official attended, in Munich, the EPO's annual hearing on the views of users of patent information, for determining the future patent information dissemination policy of the EPO.

World Trade Organization (WTO). In March 1997, a group of 25 government officials enrolled in the fifth Trade Policy Course visited WIPO and were briefed by WIPO officials on WIPO's activities and intellectual property in general.

Other Organizations

American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)/Chartered Institute of Patent Agents (CIPA). In March 1997, a WIPO official participated in an International Symposium on Reducing Patent Costs, organized jointly by AIPLA and CIPA in London, and spoke on the Patent Law Treaty and a proposal to reduce some PCT fees.

Columbia University. In March 1997, a WIPO official presented a paper on "Copyright for the Digital Era: The New WIPO Treaties, the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT)" at a meeting organized by the Columbia University in New York and attended by some 200 professors, students, lawyers, representatives of authors societies and copyright industries.

Copyright Association of Ireland. In March 1997, a WIPO official spoke at a Seminar on Copyright and Related Rights in the 21st Century organized by that Association in Dublin.

Independent Broadcasting Authority of South Africa. In March 1997, three representatives of the said Authority had discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on the WCT and the WPPT, and WIPO's work regarding the rights of broadcasters.

Patent Documentation Group (PDG). In March 1997, a WIPO official attended a meeting

of the PDG's Working Group on the Impact of Patent Laws on Documentation, held in Brussels.

Union of Manufacturers for the International Protection of Industrial and Artistic Property (UNIFAB). In March 1997, a WIPO official participated as a speaker in a European Forum on Intellectual Property organized by UNIFAB in Paris.

Calendar of Meetings

WIPO Meetings

(Not all WIPO meetings are listed. Dates are subject to possible change.)

1997

July 14 to 18 (Geneva)

Working Group on an International System for Information Technology for Industrial Property (ISITIP)

The Working Group is expected to make recommendations as to the possible future structure or institutional aspects of such a system, the program for advancing the system in the second half of 1997 and in the 1998-99 biennium and the general objectives beyond 1999.

Invitations: The Governments of the Member States of WIPO; certain intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

September 15, 16 and 19 (Geneva)

Committee of Experts on a Possible Protocol Concerning Audiovisual Performances (Protocol to the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty)

The Committee will consider the possible contents of such a Protocol.

Invitations: The Governments of the Member States of WIPO; the European Community; certain other intergovernmental organizations; certain non-governmental organizations.

September 17 to 19 (Geneva)

Information Meeting Concerning Intellectual Property in Databases

The Information Meeting will consider questions concerning intellectual property in databases.

Invitations: The Governments of the Member States of WIPO; the European Community; certain other intergovernmental organizations; certain non-governmental organizations.

- September 22 to October 1 (Geneva) Governing Bodies of WIPO and the Unions Administered by WIPO**
 All the Governing Bodies of WIPO and the Unions administered by WIPO will meet in ordinary session.
 They will, *inter alia*, review and evaluate WIPO's activities undertaken since July 1995, decide the program and budget of WIPO for the 1998-99 biennium and appoint the new Director General.
Invitations: States members of these Governing Bodies; other States; certain organizations.
- October 20 to 23 (Geneva) Committee of Experts on Well-Known Trademarks**
 This (the third) session of the Committee of Experts will continue to study questions concerning the application of Article 6*bis* of the Paris Convention (e.g., the criteria for determining whether a mark is well-known) as well as the conditions and scope of protection of famous or well-known marks against dilution and/or undue exploitation of the goodwill acquired by such marks.
Invitations: Member States of the Paris Union, the European Community and, as observers, Member States of WIPO not members of the Paris Union and certain organizations.
- October 24 (Geneva) Conference on the Institutional Response to Changing Needs of Users of Arbitration**
 WIPO is hosting this Conference which is the biennial conference of the International Federation of Commercial Arbitration Institutions (IFCAI). The Conference will bring together representatives of the major arbitration centers in the world. The theme of the Conference is the response of arbitration institutions to the changing needs of users of arbitration and mediation services.
 The subjects to be discussed will include recent revisions of the arbitration rules of various arbitration centers; the relationship between the courts and the arbitral process; the worldwide growth of mediation; and the attitude of users to arbitration.
Invitations: Any member of the public, against payment of a registration fee.
- October 24 and 25, 1997 (Eger, Hungary) Symposium on the Protection of Geographical Indications in the Worldwide Context**
 The Symposium will deal with the protection of geographical indications (appellations of origin and other geographical indications) at the national, regional and global levels.
Invitations: Governments, selected intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and any member of the public (against payment of a registration fee).

UPOV Meetings

(Not all UPOV meetings are listed. Dates are subject to possible change.)

1997

- October 27 (Geneva) Administrative and Legal Committee (Thirty-Seventh Session)**
Invitations: Member States of UPOV and, as observers, certain non-member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.
- October 28 (Geneva) Consultative Committee (Fifty-Fourth Session)**
Invitations: Member States of UPOV.
- October 29 (Geneva) Council (Thirty-First Ordinary Session)**
Invitations: Member States of UPOV and, as observers, certain non-member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

